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# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: November 8, 1948

FROM : SAC, Albany

SUBJECT: SARATOGA SPRINGS RACING MEETS 27798  
1948 SEASON  
CRIME SURVEY  
CONFIDENTIAL GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE INFORMANT SP-3

During the August 1948 Racing Season at Saratoga Springs, New York, gambling was again "wide open" and, as in the past, this town was again a mecca for hoodlums from all parts of the country. The following report, prepared by Special Agent CHARLES J. MATHEWS, is intended as a comprehensive picture of criminal activity in the Saratoga and nearby northern New York resort area. It also supplements and brings up to date the special and regular crime survey reports previously furnished to the Bureau. The activities of Confidential Informant SP-3 during his stay at Saratoga Springs in August 1948, are also recorded herein.

## A. ORGANIZED GANGS:

There are no local criminal organizations active in Saratoga Springs which can be regarded as a gang or mob.

### (1) Eastern Criminal Syndicate:

The "Eastern Criminal Syndicate" or "National Criminal Syndicate", as it is sometimes called, continued to be active in the Saratoga area and according to Confidential Informant #2781 had a summer headquarters near Saratoga Springs, New York. Information furnished by #2781 was non-specific in this regard, but he did state that "DOC" HARRIS and ABNER "LONGY" ZWILLMAN, well-known New Jersey gangsters and members of the Syndicate, rented a house near Saratoga.

Subsequent investigation reflected that one JOSEPH STATCHER, aka "MURPHY", of Newark, New Jersey, had rented the home of CHARLES DAKE, owner of the Dake Creamery, at Saratoga Springs for ten weeks from June to September 1948. This information was furnished by CHARLES SPAULDING, caretaker at the Dake home, which is located at Greenfield Center, New York, five miles west of Saratoga Springs. SPAULDING advised that STATCHER, who he described as Jewish, age 45, 5 feet six inches, 160-165 pounds, rented the home of Mr. DAKE, which is generally known in the area as the McMullin Estate, for a rent of \$1,000.00 per week. He advised that two bodyguards were on duty at the place throughout the summer and that STATCHER had many guests whose cars indicated they were from the New York City and New Jersey areas. According to SPAULDING, the most prominent of STATCHER's guests was JERRY GEISLER, well-known Hollywood and Los Angeles, California criminal lawyer, who spent two weeks in June at the place. The only other person SPAULDING could recall by name was a man from New Jersey named ZWILLMAN."

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Director, FBI

Re: SARATOGA SPRINGS RACING MEETS  
1948 SEASON  
CRIME SURVEY  
CONFIDENTIAL GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE INFORMANT SP-3

Chief of Police ROX and through WHITE, a well-known and reputable local gambler, learned that all dealers and stick-men connected with the Kentucky Club crap game were all local men known to ROX. Contacts with informants failed to verify that any members of the gang were in Saratoga and the Miami and Chicago offices could furnish no data indicative of the presence of any of the members of this gang. No crimes were committed at Saratoga indicating that the Labriola Mob, who are stick-up men, were present and active.

For the general information of the Bureau, O'GRADY furnished the following names from the Pinkerton records who allegedly make up the gang:

PAUL LABRIOLA, FBI #1153214  
JULIAN RUBEN BREAKSTONE, FBI #1086236  
JAMES MIRRO, Fort Worth, Texas Police Department #14900  
LEO GOLDSAND, FBI #4571531  
JAMES WEINBERG (allegedly a fence for the gang), Kansas City, Mo.  
Police Department #40670  
JOSEPH VALENTAGE, New York City Police Department #244037  
SOL LEIB, no number known, believed to have record as burglar with  
Miami Beach Police Department  
LOUIS SCHNEIDER, aka SCHNEIDERMAN, FBI #2008048  
MARTIN OCHS, Cook County, Illinois #17890  
Unknown woman, Miami Beach, Florida Police Department #A-12559  
JOHN LEKES, no number known, but believed to have record as hold-up  
man and burglar with Miami Beach Police Department  
PAUL ROLAND JONES, FBI #394719  
MARCOUS LIPSKY, FBI #4132692  
BRUNO TASSIONE, no known number but believed to have record as hold-up  
man and burglar with Miami Beach Police Department  
FRED HERMS, hold-up man and burglar, believed to have record with  
Miami Beach Police Department  
PETER BATHES, believed to have record as hold-up man and burglar with  
Miami Police Department  
GEORGE JOSEPH LETENDRE, FBI #1126062  
SAM VARAS, Dallas Police Department #24853

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